

ROBIN HOOD

TALES

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The Plot To
Destroy Robin Hood

THE
KNIGHT
WHO HATED
CHIVALRY

THE RANSOM OF
MAID MARION

[illegible]

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Robin Hood

THE BARON OF BURBERRY, FURIOUS WITH ROBIN HOOD'S CONSTANT INTERFERENCE, DECIDED THAT ENGLAND WAS TOO SMALL FOR BOTH HIM AND THE BOLD FORESTER! ROBIN HAD TO GO! THE SOONER THE BETTER! SO THE BARON SOUGHT OUT A WILLING AND CAPABLE ASSISTANT FOR THIS SCHEME... THE VILLAINOUS SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM, WHO ALSO HAD A THOUSAND SCORES TO SETTLE WITH ROBIN HOOD! THE VICIOUS RESULT OF THEIR SCHEME WAS...

The Plot to Destroy Robin Hood

SHERIFF! WE HAVE ROBIN HOOD SURROUNDED! CLOSE IN ON THE MEDDLER!

AYE, BARON! 'TIS A MOST MERRY SETTING FOR THE MERRY MEN'S FINISH!

ROBIN! WE ARE *TRICKED*! THE BARON OF BURBERRY PLANNED THIS FAIR TO LURE US TO OUR DOOM!



ROBIN HOOD TALES

ONE WARM JUNE DAY, IN
SHERWOOD FOREST...

GET READY! HERE
THEY COME!

HMMM... THE BARON'S CARAVAN MOVES
SLOWLY, ROBIN! MAYHAP HIS HORSES ARE
TOO LADEN DOWN WITH *TREASURE!*

AYE, WILL SCARLET! THE BARON'S
HIRELINGS RETURN FROM A COL-
LECTION TOUR! THE GOOD YEOMEN
IN THE BARON'S DISTRICT WERE
FORCED TO YIELD THEIR LAST
PENNIES TO THESE VILLAINS!

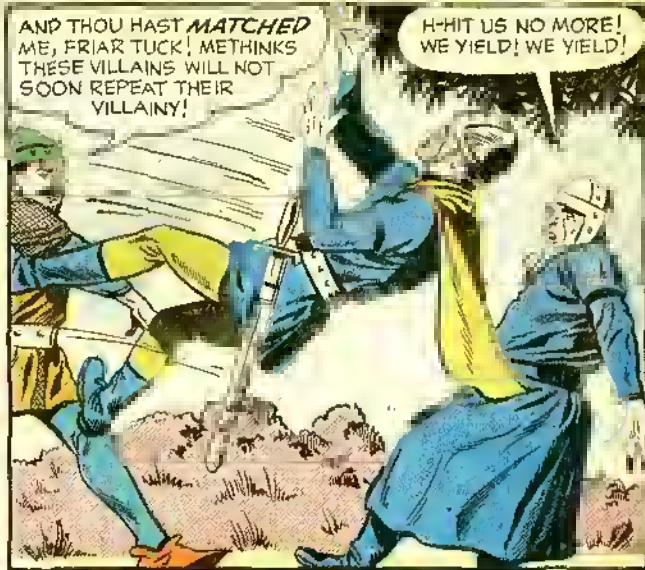
BY TOMORROW THOUGH, THIS
LOOT WILL BE *RETURNED*
TO THE DEFENSELESS
PEOPLE!

ALL RIGHT! DESCEND
UPON THE KNAVES!

L-LOOK! IT'S
ROBIN
HOOD!

QUICKLY! DISPATCH THEM
AS THEY DROP FROM THE
TREES!

NAY, ROGUES! THY
SHAFTS WILL NEVER
LEAVE THY BOWS!



THERE IS NOTHING I WOULD LIKE BETTER!

THEN HARKEN WELL, SHERIFF! I HAVE A PLAN; BUT TO EXECUTE IT, I NEED THY HELP! KNOWING ROBIN'S LOVE FOR CONTESTS AND GAMES, I WILL PLAN A GIANT FAIR IN BURBERRY!

A FAIR? HOW CAN A FAIR DO AUGHT BUT ENTERTAIN ROBIN HOOD?

ENTERTAIN HIM? THOU FOOL! OUR FAIR WILL SLAY HIM! THE PRIZES TO BE OFFERED IN THE CONTESTS ARE SURE TO ATTRACT ROBIN AND HIS MEN!

BUT ROBIN IS ONLY INTERESTED IN PRIZES IN ORDER TO GIVE HIS WINNINGS TO THE POOR!

THE POOR WILL NEVER RECEIVE HIS WINNINGS! DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? THE IDEA IS TO LURE ROBIN AND HIS ENTIRE BAND TO ONE PLACE! THEN OUR COMBINED FORCES CAN FALL IN ON THEM AND CRUSH THEM!



ZOUNDS! I SEE IT NOW! AN INGENIOUS STRATEGEM! I MAKE THEE A TOAST, BARON! TO THE COMING DESTRUCTION OF ROBIN HOOD!

AND TO OUR SUCCESS FOREVER AFTER!



A FEW DAYS LATER, AS ROBIN WAS DISTRIBUTING THE BARON'S LOOT AMONG THE POOR YEOMEN...

WHAT'S THE EXCITEMENT ABOUT, GEORGE A GREEN? ALL OF THEE ART GRINNING LIKE CHESHIRE CATS!

AND WELL WE MIGHT, ROBIN! THERE ARE SIGNS ALL OVER THE COUNTRYSIDE, ANNOUNCING A FAIR AT BURBERRY!



MANY CONTESTS WILL BE HELD, WITH GREAT PRIZES OF SILVER AND GOLD! WHAT SAYEST THOU, GOOD MASTER? CAN WE GO?

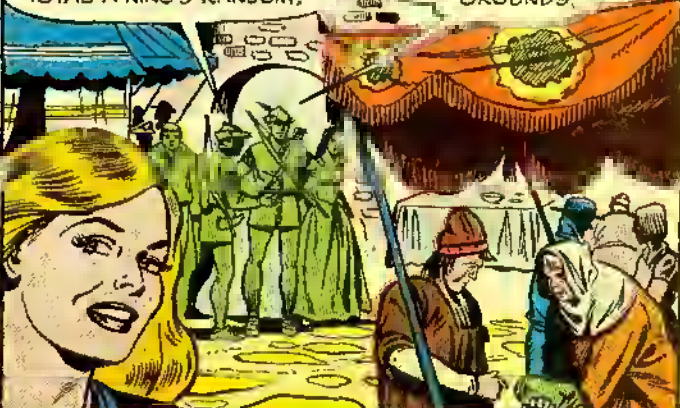
NEEDEST THOU ASK, MIDGE THE MILLER'S SON? I'D LIKE NOTHING BETTER THAN A GOOD ARCHERY MATCH! WE'LL GO TO BURBERRY TOMORROW!



THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN BURBERRY...

LOOK AT THE CROWDS, ROBIN! THE MONEY COLLECTED AT THE BOOTHS AND ENTRANCES MUST TOTAL A KING'S RANSOM!

AYE, WILL STUTELY! BUT THE FAIR WILL BE WELL-GUARDED! MANY OF THE SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM'S MEN ARE ON THE GROUNDS!



THE SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM? WHY IS THAT VILLAIN IN BURBERRY?

THERE'S TOO MUCH WEALTH HERE FOR THE LAW OFFICERS IN BURBERRY TO HANDLE ALONE! THE SHERIFF PROBABLY CAME TO ASSIST THEM!



SHORTLY AFTER, IN THE SHADOWS OF THE STANDS...

LOOK, BARON! ROBIN HAS ARRIVED!

GOOD! LET THE ROGUE ENJOY HIMSELF! HIS HAPPINESS WILL COME TO A MOST UNHAPPY END! CONCENTRATE THY MEN IN THE ARENA, SHERIFF!



SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM WALKED OFF...

WE'RE READY, SIR! DOES THE FAT ONE SUSPECT WE INTEND TO STEAL THE MONEY COLLECTED AT THE FAIR?

THE SHERIFF KNOWS NOTHING! TAKE THY POSITIONS QUICKLY! AFTER WE STEAL THE MONEY, WE'LL HELP THE SHERIFF CAPTURE ROBIN!



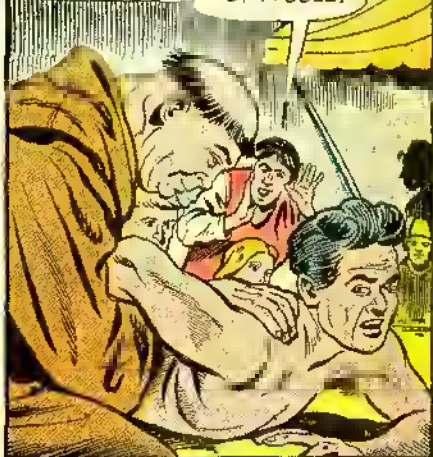
MEANWHILE, WITH EVERY ASTONISHED EYE UPON THEM, THE MERRY MEN COMPETED IN THE CONTESTS...

A-ANOTHER BULLSEYE! HE SPLIT HIS OWN SHAFT!

N-NOBODY CAN BEAT THESE STRANGERS!



W-WHAT A WRESTLER THIS FRIAR IS! H-HE'S BEATEN THE ALL-ENGLAND CHAMPION! HE HAS THE STRENGTH OF A BULL!



THERE'S A FANCY CLOUT! LITTLE JOHN, THOU WORKEST MORE WONDERS WITH THY STAVE THAN A MAGICIAN! THE MAN FLIES WITHOUT WINGS!



LATER THAT DAY...

WHERE GOEST THOU, MASTER? THE MINSTRELSY COMPETITION IS NOT FINISHED!

NAY, WILL SCARLET! 'T WAS FINISHED THE INSTANT ALAN DALE OPENED HIS MOUTH TO SING! MAID MARIAN HATH ASKED ME TO ESCORT HER ABOUT THE GROUNDS! I WILL RETURN WITH HER ANON!



SHORTLY AFTER, NEAR THE COLLECTION BOOTHS...

PRITHEE, ROBIN! WHO ART THOSE MASKED MEN? ARE THEY ACTORS IN SOME MASQUERADE?

NAY, GENTLE MAID! THEY WEAR THE MASK OF VILLAINY! METHINKS WE'LL HAVE NEED OF THE MERRY MEN!



MOMENTS LATER, AS TWO BLASTS FROM ROBIN'S BUGLE-HORN SOUNDED ABOVE THE CROWD'S ROAR...

'TIS ROBIN'S HORN! HE IS IN DANGER!

AYE, ALAN A DALE! PUT DOWN THY LUTE AND TAKE UP THY BOW! ROBIN HATH NEED OF US!



AT THE SAME TIME, NEAR THE FAIR ENTRANCE...

OHXXX!

HALT, VARLET!



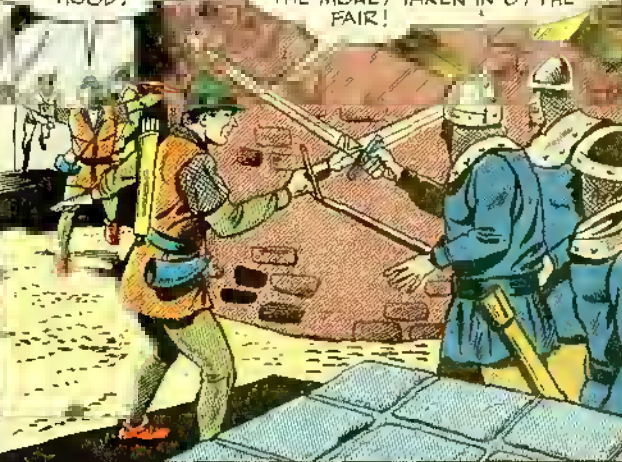
'TIS ROBIN HOOD! DESTROY HIM BEFORE HIS MEN COME TO HIS AID!

TAKE COVER, MAID MARIAN! A STRAY SHAFT MAY STRIKE THEE!



HO! MISCHIEF IS AFOOT! THE RASCALS ATTACK ROBIN HOOD!

THOU ART AS WELCOME AS THE FLOWERS IN MAY, LITTLE JOHN! THESE KNAVES TRIED TO STEAL THE MONEY TAKEN IN BY THE FAIR!



'TIS ODD! THE SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM SITS IDLY INSIDE THE FAIR WHILST WE DO HIS JOB FOR HIM!

COMPLAIN NOT, FRIAR! WE FIGHT KNAVERY WHEREVER WE FIND IT! BE A KNAVE A BARON OR A BEGGAR, WE MUST SUBDUCE HIM!



MOMENTS LATER, WITHIN THE FAIR GROUNDS...

W-WE ARE UNDONE, BARON! ROBIN HOOD HATH ACCIDENTALLY STUMBLER ACROSS OUR MEN AT THE ENTRANCE BOOTHS!

A POX ON THE RASCAL! HE FOLLOWETH ME LIKE MY SHADOW! BUT HE HATH INTERFERED FOR THE LAST TIME! TO HORSE!

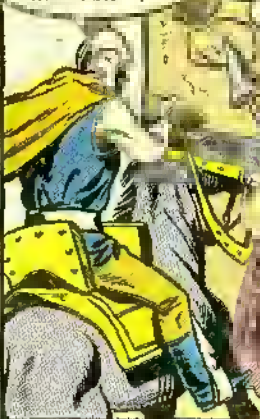


SEE, SIRE? OUR MEN ARE NO MATCH FOR ROBIN'S BAND!



ATTACK JUST THE SAME! THERE ARE **OTHER** WAYS OF GETTING AT ROBIN BESIDES A SPEAR OR AN ARROW!

THOU ART UNDOUBTEDLY THE FAMOUS MAID MARIAN! HOW UNLUCKY FOR ROBIN THAT THOU HAST FALLEN INTO MY HANDS!



I-I KNOW THEE! THOU ART THE ROBBER BARON OF BURBERRY! THOU ART RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS THEVERY!



AND **THOU** WILT BE THE MEANS WHEREBY I WILL ESCAPE WITH THE GOLD! GUARD HER CLOSELY, MEN! SHE IS THE BARGAIN I WILL DRIVE WITH THE MEDDLING FORESTER!



MOMENTS LATER, AS THE BARON RODE UP WITH THE CAPTIVE...

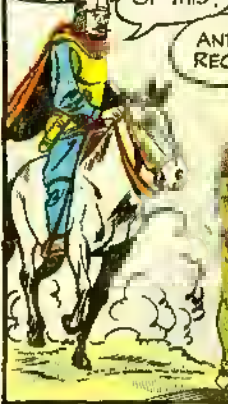
CEASE THY STRUGGLE, ROBIN, OR THE FAIR MAID DIES! RELEASE MY MEN!



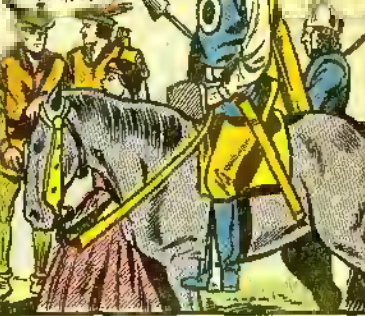
D-DON'T LISTEN TO THE VILLAIN, ROBIN! TAKE HIM PRISONER!

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM, SUDDENLY AWARE OF THE COMMOTION, RODE UP...

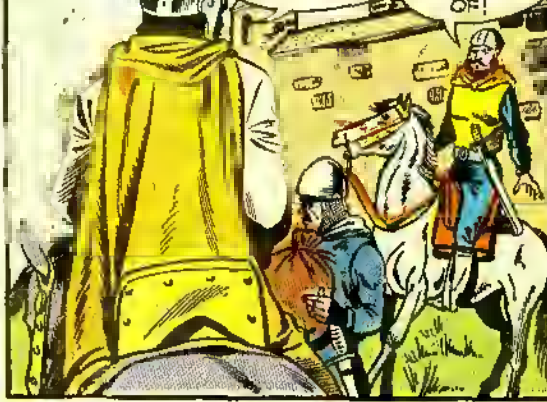
BARON! W-WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?



IT MEANS I HAVE BETRAYED THEE, FOOL! I SECRETLY DECIDED TO KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE! TO DESTROY ROBIN HOOD, AND TO STEAL THE RECEIPTS OF THE FAIR!



NATURALLY, HAD I ASKED THEE, THOU WOULDST HAVE JOINED ME IN THIS THEFT! BUT I PREFERRED NOT TO SHARE THE LOOT!



S-SUCH TREACHERY IS UNHEARD OF!

THOU HAST HEARD OF IT NOW! I SAID I WILL HELP THEE CRUSH ROBIN! WELL, IT HAS WORKED OUT ANOTHER WAY! HERE IS MY HOSTAGE! ROBIN WILL SURRENDER TO SPARE HER LIFE!



B-BUT WHERE GOEST THOU?

FOOLISH QUESTION, WHEN I CAN NO LONGER REMAIN HERE! TO FRANCE! 'TIS A FAIR EXCHANGE! THOU HAST ROBIN HOOD AND I HAVE MY STOLEN FORTUNE!



THE ONLY THING I REGRET IS THAT I SHALL MISS THE HANGING! HA! HA! AND THE ANGER OF THE MERCHANTS YOU CAME TO PROTECT!

THE VILLAIN! MAY A THOUSAND PERDITIONS STRIKE HIM BEFORE HE REACHES FRANCE!



I KNOW ONE PERDITION THAT CAN STRIKE THE BARON LONG BEFORE HE GETS TO FRANCE!

THOU SPEAKEST IN RIDDLES, ROBIN! SPEAK PLAINLY!



I SHALL! GIVE ME MOST OF MY MEN AND LET ME PURSUE THE BARON! WE'LL OVERTAKE THE ROGUE, DEFEAT HIM AND BRING THE MONEY BACK! IN EXCHANGE FOR THIS, YOU ARE TO FREE MY WOODSMEN!

WHAT IF THOU ART LYING? WHAT IF THOU DOST NOT PURSUE THE BARON? WHAT IF THOU KEEP-EST THE GOLD FOR THYSELF?



NONE OF THESE THINGS WILL HAPPEN! WOULD THOU WERT AS MUCH A MAN OF THY WORD AS I AM!

DONE! TAKE TWO THIRDS OF THY FORESTERS AND STOP THE TREACHEROUS SCOUNDREL IN HIS TRACKS! WE'LL WAIT HERE!



ROBIN! DOST THOU THINK WE CAN OVERTAKE THE BARON? HIS FORCE IS LARGE! BESIDES, HE HATH A LONG LEAD OVER US!

IT WON'T MATTER, LITTLE JOHN! THE BARON MUST USE THE FERRY AT BURBERRY BANKS! THE FERRY WILL DELAY HIM JUST LONG ENOUGH!

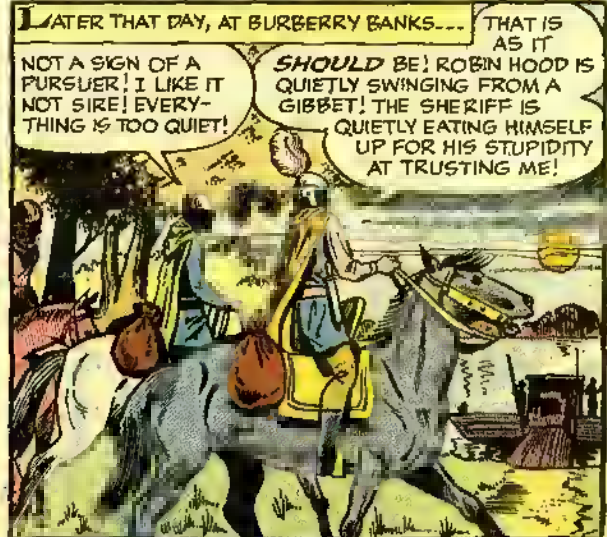


LATER THAT DAY, AT BURBERRY BANKS...

THAT IS AS IT

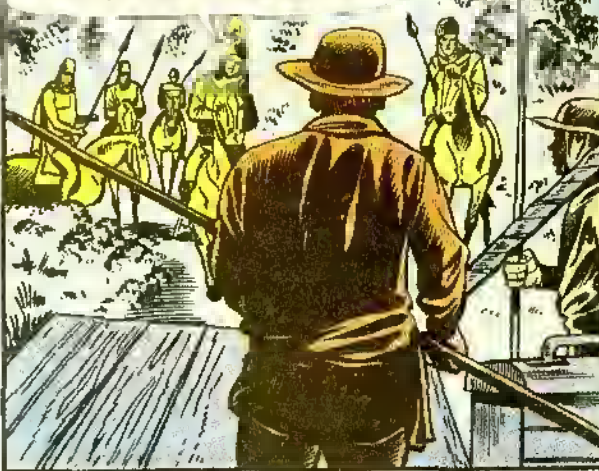
NOT A SIGN OF A PURSUER! I LIKE IT NOT SIRE! EVERYTHING IS TOO QUIET!

SHOULD BE! ROBIN HOOD IS QUIETLY SWINGING FROM A GIBBET! THE SHERIFF IS QUIETLY EATING HIMSELF UP FOR HIS STUPIDITY AT TRUSTING ME!



AND WE WILL QUIETLY CROSS BURBERRY STREAM! THEN A FEW MORE DAYS OF QUIET MARCHING...AND WE'LL BE IN FRANCE! ROUSE THE FERRYMEN!

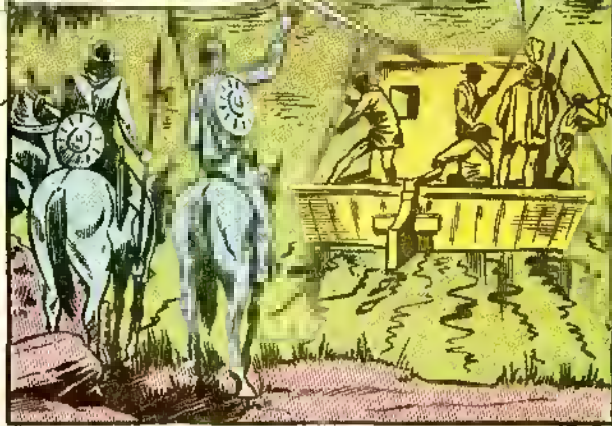
YES, SIRE!



SHORTLY AFTER, AT THE FERRY STATION...

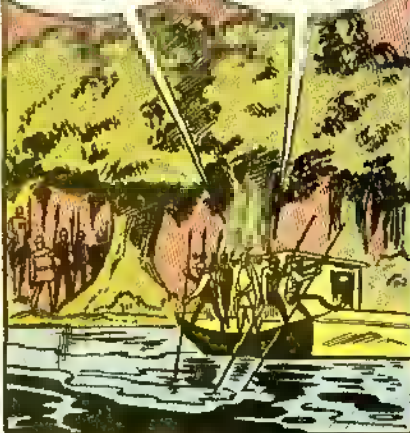
MAKE THEM! BUT GET ON WITH IT! DARKNESS IS FALLING!

THY WHOLE FORCE CANNOT CROSS AT THE SAME TIME, BARON! WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE SEVERAL TRIPS!



MAKE HASTE, THOU FOOLS! WE ARE MOVING AT A SNAIL'S PACE!

IT CAN'T BE HELPED, SIRE! THE BARGE BEARS A HEAVY LOAD!



COME TO THINK OF IT...WHAT'S MY RUSH? NO ONE PURSUES ME! ROBIN HOOD IS GONE! I CAN TAKE MY TIME!

SIRE! L-LOOK!

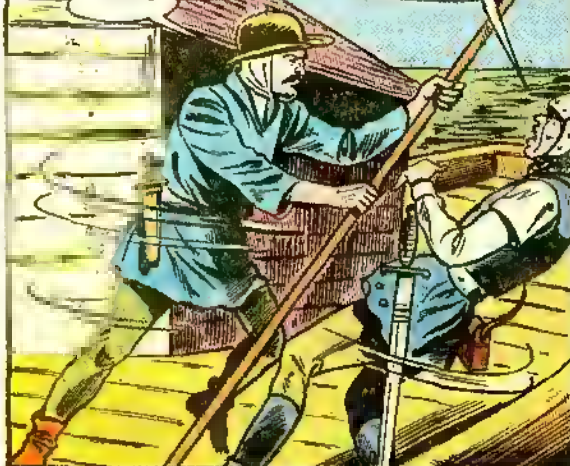


I-IT'S ROBIN HOOD! THEY FOLLOWED US! KNOCK THEM INTO THE WATER! QUICK!

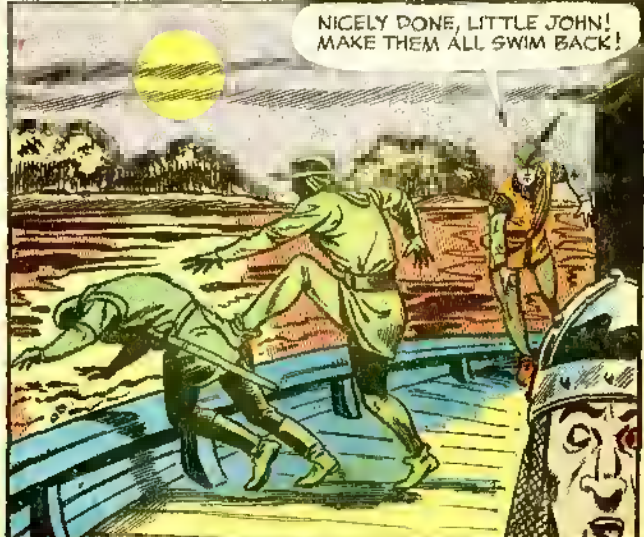


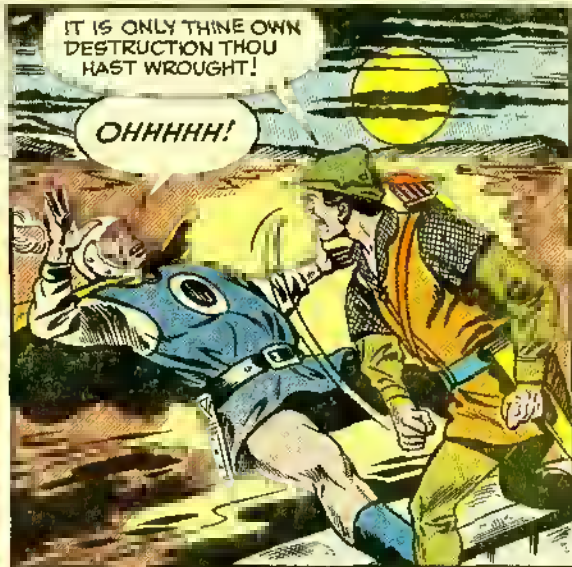
NAY, ROGUES! 'TIS *THOU* WHO WILT GET THY HEADS WET!

IIIIIEEEE!



NICELY DONE, LITTLE JOHN! MAKE THEM ALL SWIM BACK!





OHhhh!
YAAAAA!

H-HELP!
HELP!

SO THOU
INTENDED TO
DESTROY
ME, EH, BARON?

IT IS ONLY THINE OWN
DESTRUCTION THOU
HAST WROUGHT!

OHhhh!

AT THE SAME TIME, ON LAND...

SINCE THEY'RE SO CONCERNED
ABOUT THEIR FRIENDS, INTO
THE DRINK WITH 'EM, TOO,
LADS!

AYE, FRIAR TUCK!
THIS IS WHAT
I CALL
DROWNING
THE BARON'S
HOPES!

LATER THAT NIGHT, IN BURBERRY...

HERE ARE THE VILLAINS, AS
PROMISED! NOW KEEP **THY**
PROMISE, SHERIFF! FREE
MAID MARIAN AND THE
REST OF MY MEN!

FOOL! DIDST THOU
THINK I WOULD
HONOR MY WORD TO THEE?
I NEVER BELIEVED THOU
WERT SO STUPID! SEIZE
ROBIN HOOD, MEN!

THOU WERT WISE
TO EXPECT SUCH
PERFIDY FROM
THE SHERIFF,
ROBIN!

AYE! I KNOW THE
RASCAL WELL! YES,
SHERIFF! **NOT**
TRUSTING THEE, I
SECRETED HALF
MY MEN IN THE
WAGONS!

SURRENDER MY
MEN THIS INSTANT,
OR I'LL MAKE
THEE A PIN-
CUSHION FOR
MY ARROWS!

Y-YES,
ROBIN!
**ANY-
THING!**
ONLY...
DON'T
SHOOT!

SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE VICTORIOUS
BAND RETURNED TO SHERWOOD FOREST!

IT'S BEEN A GOOD
DAY, ROBIN! THE
BARON OF BUR-
BERRY IS CRUSHED!
AND WE HAVE GOLD
A-PLenty TO GIVE
TO THE POOR!

AYE, LITTLE
JOHN! EVIL TO
HIM WHO EVIL
DESERVES!
WE HAVE
CAUSE TO
CELEBRATE
TONIGHT
AYE!

Robin Hood



THOU VILLAIN!
RELEASE ME AT
ONCE...OR YOU'LL
ANSWER TO ROBIN
HOOD HIMSELF!

ROBIN HOOD! OHO, MAID
MARIAN! ROBIN IS DOOMED!
EVEN *NOW* MY SOLDIERS
ARE GRINDING HIM INTO
DUST, TOGETHER WITH HIS
BAND OF MEDDLERS!

IT WAS ONLY NATURAL, CONSIDERING ALL THE TROUBLE ROBIN HOOD GAVE HIS ENEMIES, THAT THE EVIL-DOERS WOULD RETALIATE! ROBIN WAS WELL AWARE OF THEIR VILLAINY, BUT NOT EVEN HE DREAMED THAT THEIR VENGEANCE COULD TAKE SO BRUTAL A COURSE AS IT DID IN...

The RANSOM OF MAID MARIAN

ONE EVENING, AT THE GUILD HALL IN THE VILLAGE OF BELMORE---

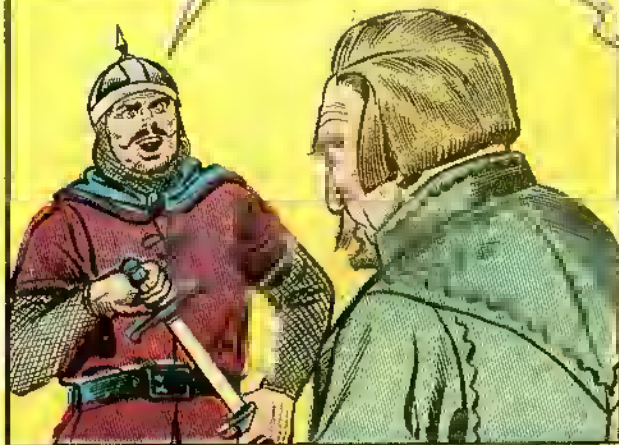
I COME NOT TO
ARGUE WITH THEE! THOU KNOWEST
THE TRIBUTE THE EARL OF TENFORD
HAST LEVIED UPON THEE; PAY OR WE
WILL 'CLOSE THE SHOP OF EVERY
MERCHANT IN
BELMORE!

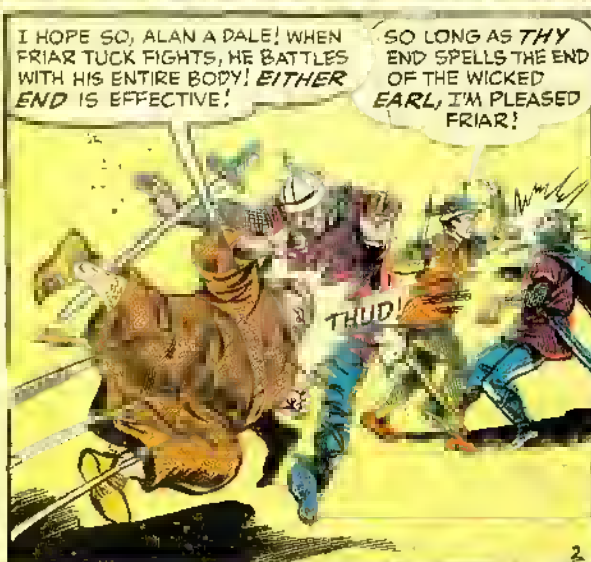
B-BUT THE EARL
HAS NO RIGHT
TO TAX US!



HERE'S HIS RIGHT! DOST THOU KNOW A
MORE POWERFUL ONE? PAY THE TAXES
OR SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES!

THEY WILL PAY
NOTHING,
VARLET!





LATER THAT NIGHT, AS THE MERRY MEN HEADED FOR SHERWOOD FOREST...

I FEAR THAT THE EARL OF TENFORD WILL BE ANGERED, NOT DISCOURAGED, ROBIN! THE WOLF CANNOT TURN INTO THE LAMB!

I AM TO CHANGE THE EARL'S PLANS, NOT HIS NATURE, LITTLE JOHN!



THE LAW IN THIS DISTRICT IS NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO BATTLE THE VARLET! THEREFOR **WE** MUST STRUGGLE AGAINST HIM! **WE** MUST DEFEAT HIM!

I **GRANT** THEE THIS, ROBIN! BUT THE EARL IS NO WEAK ENEMY! WE WILL SEE MUCH VENGEANCE AND DESTRUCTION ON HIS PART BEFORE WE'RE THROUGH!



A FEW DAYS LATER, NEAR THE VILLAGE OF BELMORE...

Z-OUNDS! IT IS ROBIN HOOD!

WE HEARD THOU WERT MAKING A TOUR OF THE FARMS, ROBBING THE GOOD YEOMEN OF THEIR BELONGINGS! THY TOUR OF PILLAGE IS NOW ENDED!



THY MASTER MUST REALIZE THAT HIS WICKEDNESS WILL GAIN HIM NOTHING EXCEPT IMPRISONMENT IN A DANK DUNGEON!



H-HOLD! HOLD! WE YIELD!

SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE EARL'S VARLETS SURRENDERED...

WE RELEASE THEE, FOOL... TO CONVEY A MESSAGE TO THY WICKED MASTER! TELL HIM HE WILL SEE NO PROFIT FROM HIS SCHEMES AS LONG AS ROBIN HOOD LIVES!



THAT NIGHT AT TENFORD CASTLE...

THE NERVE OF THE ROGUE! HE THROWS OUT A CHALLENGE TO ME! WHY, I CAN CRUSH ROBIN HOOD LIKE A BUG IF I SO DESIRE!

I'M NOT SO SURE, SIRE! PERHAPS WE SHOULD POSTPONE OUR PLANNED ROBBERY OF THE TOWN TREASURE!



ROBIN HOOD TRAILS US EVERYWHERE! HIS SPIES MUST WORK UNDER OUR VERY NOSES! HE IS SURE TO TURN UP WHEREVER **WE** DO!

TRAITOR! YOU ADVISE ME TO **GIVE IN** TO THAT MEDDLER? NEVER! I WILL DESTROY HIM! I WILL GRIND HIM IN THE DUST!



NOW GO! THE CARAVAN LEAVES BELMORE AT MIDNIGHT! I WANT IT INTERCEPTED AT THE TYLOW BRIDGE!

YES, SIRE!

THAT NIGHT, IN SHERWOOD FOREST...

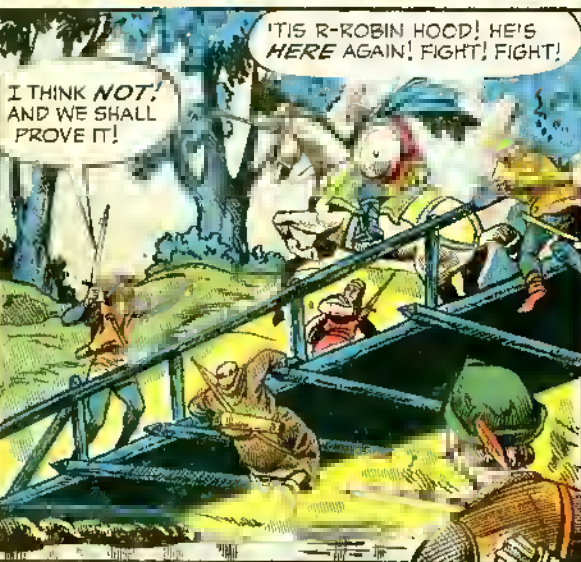
THE EARL'S MEN WILL ATTACK THE TOWN TREASURE SHIPMENT AT MIDNIGHT AT THE TYLOW BRIDGE!

THANK YOU, GOOD MERTON! HASTEN BACK TO THE EARL'S CASTLE BEFORE YOUR ABSENCE AROUSES SUSPICION!

SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT, ON THE TYLOW BRIDGE...

HA! HA! LOOK AT THEM RUN! THE DIMWITS KNOW THEY ARE NO MATCH FOR US!

NO ONE IS! WE ARE INVINCIBLE!



I THINK *NOT*! AND WE SHALL PROVE IT!

'TIS R-ROBIN HOOD! HE'S *HERE* AGAIN! FIGHT! FIGHT!



NOW WE HAVE *PROOF* THAT THE EARL IS NOTHING BUT A COMMON THIEF!

YEA, ROBIN! THE VILLAIN WILL BE BESIDE HIMSELF WITH RAGE WHEN HE LEARNS THAT WE'LL DISTRIBUTE THIS TREASURE TO THE POOR!

LATER THAT NIGHT, AT TENFORD CASTLE...

ROBIN HOOD AGAIN! A PLAGUE TAKE HIM! HE MUST HAVE SPIES HERE! THEY *TOLD* HIM ABOUT THE ROBBERY!

AYE, SIRE! IN THE FUTURE, THOU MUST PLAN IN SECRECY WITH ONLY A *FEW* OF THY MOST TRUSTED MEN-AT-ARMS!

FORSOOTH, I WILL! I SHALL PLAN *WELL*! *SLYLY*! *DESTRUCTIVELY*! I SHALL RID MYSELF OF THIS FORESTER WHO MEDDLES WITH MY SCHEMES!



THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN SHERWOOD FOREST...

PRITHEE, MAID MARIAN! COME WITH ME TO BELMORE ABBEY! THE GOOD PRIORESS' VERONICA HATH NEED OF THY NURSING AID! AN EPIDEMIC OF SICKNESS HATH STRUCK THE VILLAGE OF BELMORE!

I AM DISMAYED AT THIS SAD NEWS! I WILL GO TO THE ABBEY AT ONCE!



DOST THOU WANT THE MERRY MEN TO ACCOMPANY THEE, MAID MARIAN?

NO, GOOD ROBIN! THOU NEEDEST EVERY BOLD FORESTER HERE FOR THY BATTLE WITH THE EARL OF TENFORD! I WILL SEE THEE ANON!



AN HOUR LATER, AT BELMORE ABBEY...

T-THE EARL OF TENFORD! WHAT DOTH THIS MEAN? WHERE IS THE PRIORESS?

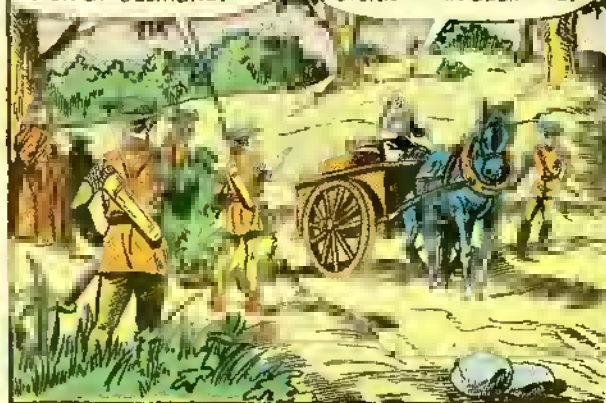
AWAY ON AN ERRAND OF MERCY! THIS LADY FROM MY COURT HATH DECOYED THEE HERE ON MY ORDERS! AS MY PRISONER, THOU WILT FETCH A RANSOM EQUAL TO THE SUM ROBIN TOOK FROM ME LAST NIGHT!



AT THE SAME TIME, NOT FAR FROM BELMORE ABBEY...

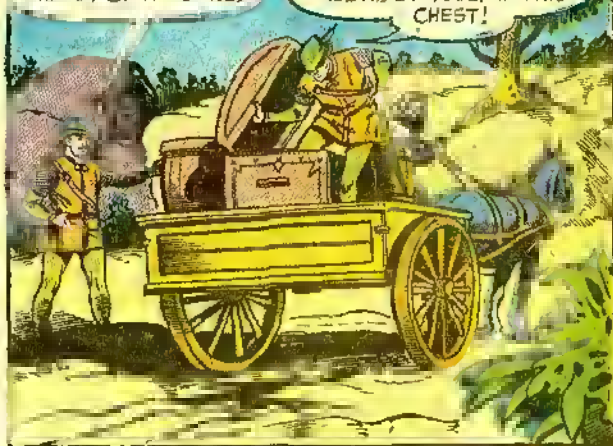
WHAT DOST THOU HERE, GOOD PRIORESS? MAID MARIAN WAS SUMMONED TO THY ABBEY TO HELP THEE TREAT THE SICK OF BELMORE!

WHAT DOST THOU BABBLE ABOUT, LITTLE JOHN? I NEVER SUMMONED MAID MARIAN! I KNOW OF NO SICKNESS IN BELMORE!



R-ROBIN HOOD! DOST THOU HEAR? IT WAS A TRICK! THAT FEMALE MESSENGER MUST'VE BEEN IN THE EMPLOY OF THE EARL!

DOUBTLESS THE VILLAIN MEANS TO USE HER AS A HOSTAGE! TAKE ME TO THY ABBEY, GOOD PRIORESS! I WILL HIDE MYSELF IN THIS CHEST!



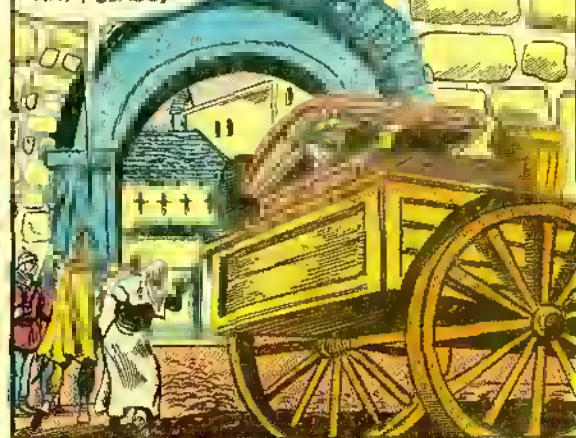
AN HOUR LATER, AT BELMORE ABBEY...

W-WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHO ARE THESE MEN?

THEY'RE MINE, MY LADY! WE'VE SEIZED YOUR ABBEY! ROBIN HOOD WILL SHORTLY DELIVER A LARGE SUM OF MONEY TO ME IN PAYMENT FOR THE RANSOM OF A YOUNG LADY YOU'LL MEET INSIDE!



I SUGGEST, PRIORESS THAT YOU TAKE REFUGE INSIDE! FOR I PLAN TO TAKE NOT ONLY THE RANSOM... BUT THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO DELIVER IT! THIS WAY PLEASE!



LATER, AS TWILIGHT DESCENDS ON THE ABBEY...IN ITS DESERTED COURTYARD...

THIS FELLOW'S VILLAINY KNOWS NO BOUNDS! HE INTENDS TO AMBUSH MY MERRY MEN! I'VE GOT TO ACT QUICKLY!



SHORTLY AFTER INSIDE THE ABBEY...

THOU VILLAIN! RELEASE ME AT ONCE...OR THOU WILT ANSWER TO ROBIN HOOD HIMSELF!

ROBIN HOOD? OH, MAID MARIAN! EVEN NOW HE ENTERS THE ABBEY GROUNDS! IN A FEW MINUTES MY SOLDIERS WILL MAKE HIM BUT A MEMORY! LOOK OUTSIDE!



GADZOOKS! T-THE EARL HATH LURED US INTO A TRAP!

THAT MEANS THE KNAVES HAVE CAUGHT ROBIN! ELSE ROBIN WOULD BE HERE...TO HELP US!

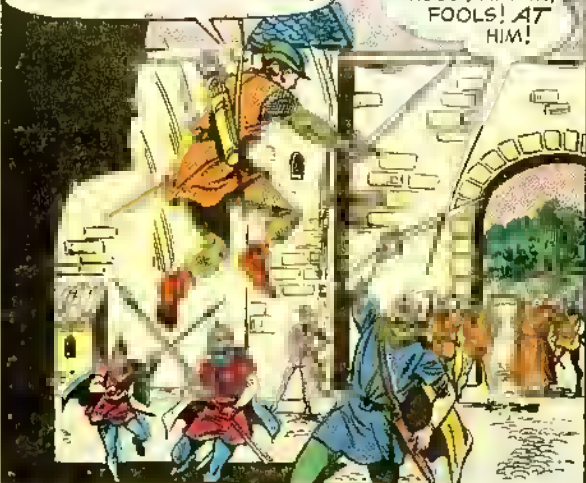


ROBIN HOOD IS HERE, GOOD FRIAR! ATTACK THE VARLETS! TURN OUR AMBUSH INTO THEIR FINISH!

BY MY S-SOUL! 'TIS HE! ROBIN HOOD! AT HIM, FOOLS! AT HIM!

THOU DIDST NOT COME WITH THY FORESTERS! THOU STOLE INTO THE ABBEY UNDETECTED! BUT IT WILL AVAIL THEE NOTHING!

NAY, VILLAIN! IT WILL AVAIL ME THY DEFEAT! THY PLUNDERING DAYS ARE OVER!



I-I YIELD! SPARE ME, ROBIN!

AYE FOR THE PUNISHMENT THOU SO RICHLY DESERVEST!

SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE EARL'S MEN ALSO SURRENDERED!

HERE, GOOD PRIORESS! A CONTRIBUTION TO THE ABBEY'S CHARITIES! THE REST OF THE GOLD THE EARL SOUGHT WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE POOR!

A THOUSAND THANKS, GOOD ROBIN! MAY THY GOODNESS ALWAYS PREVAIL OVER THE EVIL MEN LIKE THE EARL OF TENFORD!



Robin Hood

IN THE LONG AND VILLAINOUS SUCCESSION OF WICKED MEN WHOM ROBIN HOOD OPPOSED NO ROGUE STOOD OUT MORE PROMINENTLY THAN SIR HILLARY FERRICK OF COXHAM! HERE WAS A VARLET WHOSE UNPARALLELED MEANNESS DELIGHTED IN THE CONSTANT DISGRACE HE BROUGHT UPON CHIVALRY! RESORTING TO ANY AND EVERY TRICK TO DOWN HIS CHOSEN ENEMIES, SIR HILLARY FERRICK UNLEASHED AN EVIL GENIUS THAT EARNED HIM AN UNSAVORY REPUTATION AS...

The KNIGHT WHO HATED CHIVALRY!

SIR HILLARY! **THINK** BEFORE 'TIS TOO LATE! WHEN I TELL THE TALE OF THY TREACHERY, THY NAME WILL BE **HATED** WHEREVER MEN LOVE CHIVALRY!

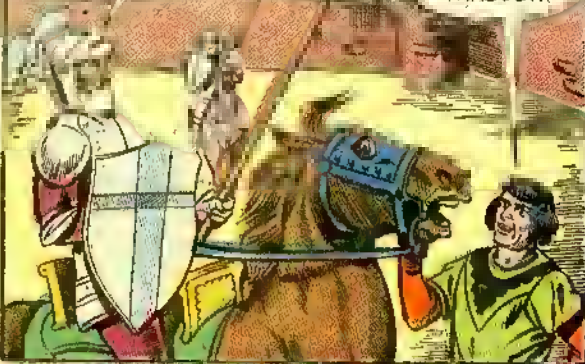
I CARE NAUGHT FOR CHIVALRY...NOR **ANY** MAN'S OPINION! AFTER HIM, FOOLS! **DESTROY** ROBIN HOOD!



ONE DAY, AT THE JOUSTING ARENA IN GAMSHIRE, ENGLAND...

MAURICE! DID YOU TAKE CARE OF THE FOOL'S LANCE?

AYE, SIR HILLARY! I PAID SIR WILLIAM'S SQUIRE WELL FOR THE JOB! SIR WILLIAM'S LANCE IS SAWED ALMOST COMPLETELY THROUGH!

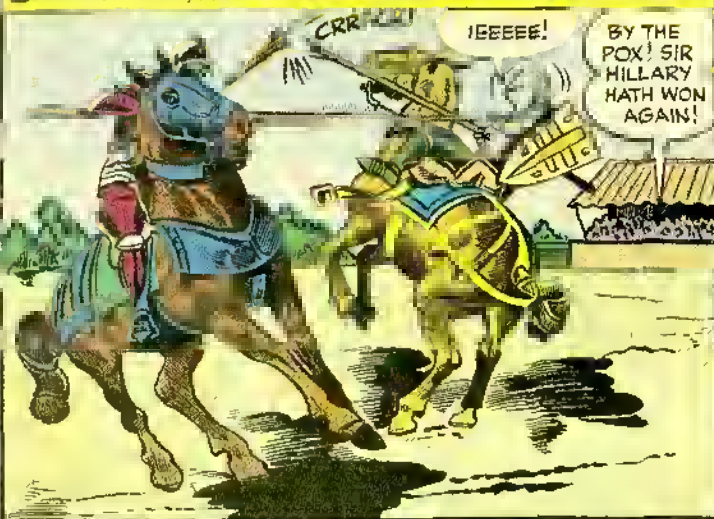


IT'LL SNAP OFF THE INSTANT IT TOUCHES THY SHIELD! THOU CANST NOT LOSE, MASTER!

GOOD! GIVE THE SIGNAL MAURICE! I AM READY TO CLAIM MY TWENTIETH VICTIM!



SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE KNIGHTS RACED TOWARD EACH OTHER....



CRR!

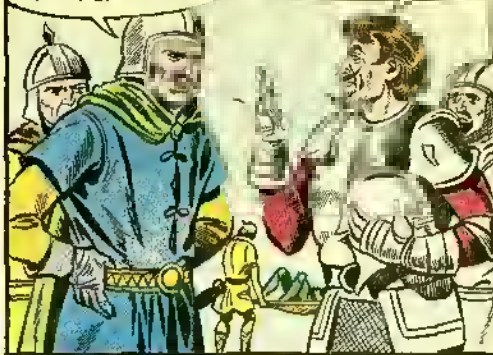
IEEEEE!

BY THE
POX! SIR
HILLARY
HATH WON
AGAIN!

LATER, AS SEVERAL INDIGNANT KNIGHTS
APPROACHED THE WINNER....

SIR HILLARY! THE JUDGES
HATH DISCOVERED THAT
SIR WILLIAM'S LANCE
WAS SAWEED THROUGH!
DOST THOU KNOW
AUGHT OF THIS?

NOTHING,
FRIEND...EXCEPT
THAT I DEFEATED
SIR WILLIAM FAIRLY
AND QUICKLY! ONLY
LOSERS COMPLAIN!



THE VILLAIN! HE
DOTH NOT DECEIVE
US! SIR HILLARY
SCORNS THE RULES
OF CHIVALRY! HE
USETH ALL MEANS,
FOUL OR FAIR,
TO WIN!

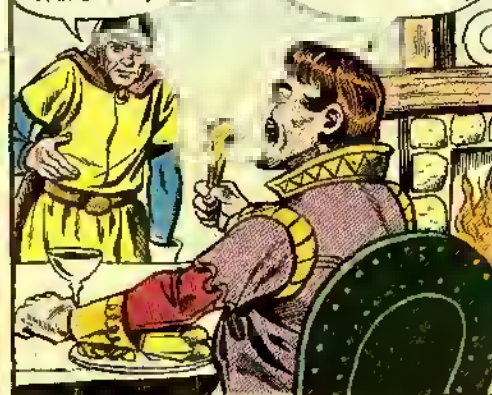
AYE! MOST
LY FOUL!
MEN
WOULD
BE WISE
TO AVOID
THIS BASE
VARLET!



THAT NIGHT, AT SIR HILLARY'S CASTLE AT
COXHAM....

S-SIR
HILLARY, MAY I SPEAK?
THERE IS ANGRY TALK
ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED
TODAY IN THE LISTS AT
GAMSHIRE!

PEOPLE TALK?
LET THEM TALK!
LET THEM THINK
ILL OF ME! I CARE
NOT! INDEED...I
PREFER IT SO!



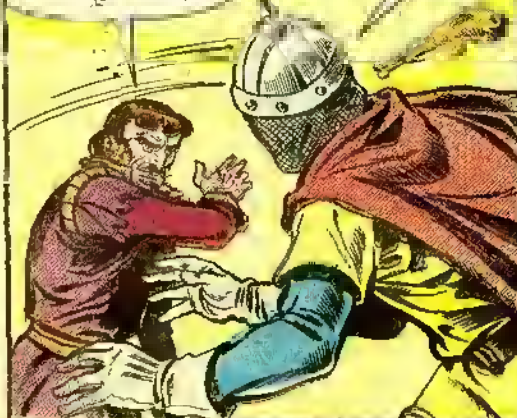
WHEN THEY HEAR MY NAME, LET
THEM TREMBLE! AS FOR ME, THERE
IS NO GREATER JOY THAN IN SUB-
DUEING SOME FOOL
WHO THINKS HE
CAN DEFEAT ME!

B-BUT, SIR!
THEY SUSPECT
TRICKERY! THEY
SAY...



IDIOT! WHO CARES WHAT THEY SAY?
IF THESE STUPID KNIGHTS OBJECT
TO MY METHODS, LET THEM
CHALLENGE ME! THEY'LL ONLY
MEET THE SAME FATE
AS THE OTHERS!

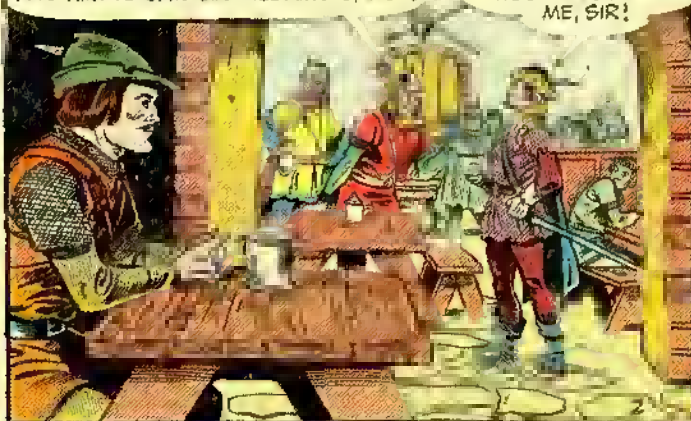
Y-YES,
SIR!
WHATEVER
YOU SAY,
SIR!



A FEW DAYS LATER, IN NOTTINGHAM, AS WILL SCARLET SAT
UNRECOGNIZED AT A CORNER TABLE....

FOR SHAME, SIR HILLARY! SIR WILLIAM'S
SQUIRE HATH CONFESSED THAT THOU
PAID HIM TO SAW SIR WILLIAM'S LANCE!

DOST THOU TAKE THE
WORD OF A SQUIRE
AGAINST MINE?
THOU INSULTETH
ME, SIR!



I MEAN AN INSULT!

METHINKS, SIR MALCOLM, THOU LOOK-
EST FOR TROUBLE! I
DEMAND SATISFACTION
TOMORROW IN THE LISTS
AT NOTTINGHAM!



THOU SHALT HAVE IT... AND TO
SPARE! DON'T BOTHER TRYING
TO SAW THROUGH MY LANCE,
KNAVE! MY WEAPONS
WILL BE GUARDED
LIKE THE CROWN
JEWELS!

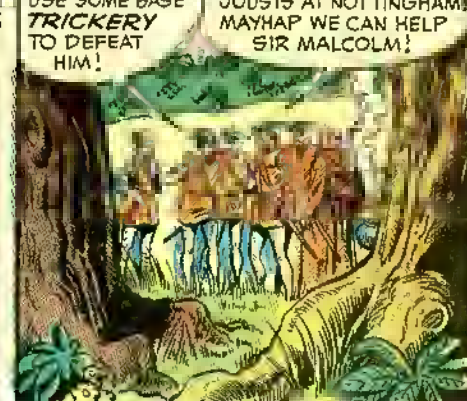
ALACK!
ROBIN MUST
HEAR ABOUT
THIS! HE HOLDS
SIR MALCOLM IN
HIGH REGARD!



THAT SAME NIGHT, IN SHERWOOD FOREST...

I FEAR FOR SIR
MALCOLM'S LIFE,
ROBIN! SIR
HILLARY WILL
USE SOME BASE
TRICKERY
TO DEFEAT
HIM!

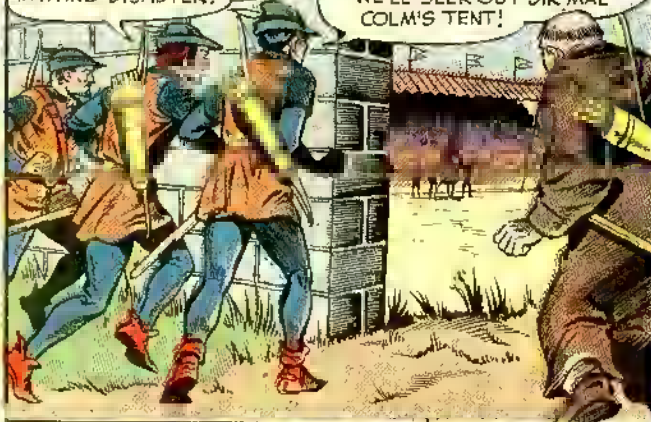
I AGREE WITH THEE, WILL
SCARLET! SIR HILLARY IS
A DISGRACE TO CHIVALRY!
WE WILL ATTEND THE
JOUSTS AT NOTTINGHAM!
MAYHAP WE CAN HELP
SIR MALCOLM!



THE FOLLOWING MORNING, AT NOTTINGHAM...

EVERYBODY IN NOTTINGHAM
IS HERE, ROBIN, INCLUDING
THE SHERIFF! WE MIGHT BE
INVITING DISASTER!

NAY, WILL SCARLET! SIR
MALCOLM'S DANGER IS
GREATER THAN OURS! COME!
WE'LL SEEK OUT SIR MAL-
COLM'S TENT!



SHORTLY AFTER, OUTSIDE SIR MALCOLM'S TENT...

THANK YOU FOR COMING, GOOD ROBIN!
BUT THOU HAST NAUGHT TO FEAR! I
SHALL VANQUISH THE FRAUD! BUT
THOU ART IN PERIL! WHAT IF THOU
ART **RECOGNIZED?**

WE SHALL
STAND
IN THE
SHADOWS,
SIR MALCOLM!
GOOD LUCK!



SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE DUEL COMMENCED...

SO FAR I SEE NO TRICKERY,
ROBIN! SIR MALCOLM SEEMS
CONFIDENT ENOUGH!

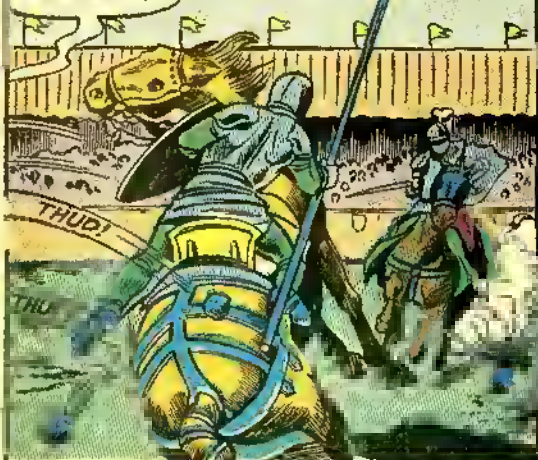
WATCH SIR HILLARY'S MEN
CLOSELY, WILL SCARLET!
THE TRICKSTER OF
COXHAM IS CAPABLE
OF ANY EVIL!



W-WAIT, ROBIN! SOMETHING IS AMISS WITH
SIR MALCOLM'S MOUNT! THE STEED
PLUNGES ABOUT AS IF
IT WERE STUNG!

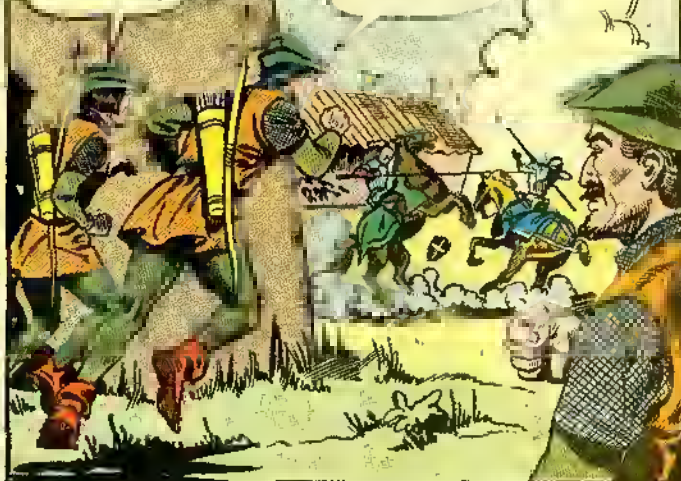


THOU ART RIGHT, WILL SCARLET! THE HORSE REARS AS THOUGH IT HAD GONE MAD! SIR MALCOLM CANNOT MANAGE IT!



Z-ZOUNDS, ROBIN! SIR MALCOLM IS UNDONE! HE FALLS!

I KNOW WHY! FOLLOW ME! TO THE LEFT OF THE STANDS!



I-I SEE THEM! SIR HILLARY'S HIRELLARYS! WITH SLINGSHOTS AND STONES!

THERE IS YOUR ANSWER, WILL SCARLET! THAT IS WHY SIR MALCOLM'S HORSE PLUNGED AND REARED!



THEY USED SLINGSHOTS TO STING SIR MALCOLM'S HORSE INTO MADNESS! THAT'S WHAT MADE SIR MALCOLM HELPLESS.



D-DON'T SHOOT! PLEASE! PLEASE!

THEN CONFESS THY MISDEEDS! TELL THE PEOPLE WHAT THOU HAST DONE, FOUL FIENDS!



NO! NO! WE CANNOT! SIR HILLARY WOULD SLAY US FOR BETRAYING HIM!

AYE! WE MIGHT AS WELL BE DISPATCHED BY YOU! WE ARE DOOMED IF WE SPEAK!



SHALL I SHAKE THE TRUTH OUT OF THESE KNAVES, ROBIN?

NAY WILL SCARLET! I HAVE A BETTER IDEA! I WILL CHALLENGE SIR HILLARY MYSELF! COME!



MOMENTS LATER, ROBIN ADVANCES TO THE CENTER OF THE FIELD! THE ASSEMBLAGE RISES IN STUNNED AMAZEMENT!

IT'S ROBIN HOOD!

H-H-E RAISES HIS HAND TO SPEAK!

I SEE THOU RECOGNIZE ME! HARKEN TO MY WORDS BEFORE THOU ATTACK ME!



IF THOU ATTACKEST US WE SHALL TAKE A DREADFUL TOLL OF THEE BEFORE WE ARE MADE PRISONER! HOWEVER, IF LEFT ALONE WE MAY SURRENDER WITHOUT STRUGGLE!

SPEAK, FORESTER! WHAT IS YOUR BARGAIN?



I ACCUSE SIR HILLARY OF DEFEATING SIR MALCOLM BY EVIL TRICKERY! THEREFORE I CHALLENGE THE VARLET TO ANOTHER TRIAL BY JOUSTING! IF I BEST HIM, I GO FREE!

THOU CANST NOT BEST ME, KNAVE! NOR CAN ANY MAN!



WE SHALL SEE! AT ANY RATE, DEFEAT ME, VARLET, AND MY MEN WILL SURRENDER TO THE SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM WITHOUT COMPLAINT! DO YOU ACCEPT THESE TERMS?

MOST WILLINGLY! IT WILL BE MY PLEASURE TO DESTROY THEE! DON THY ARMOR!



SHORTLY AFTER, AS HIS MEN HELP ROBIN HOOD INTO HIS PROTECTIVE METAL...

I AM WORRIED, ROBIN! THOU HAS LITTLE EXPERIENCE IN TILTING!

FRET NOT, ALAN A DALE! WERE THE VARLET TRULY GOOD AT JOUSTING HE WOULD NOT NEED THE AID OF TRICKERY! JUST WATCH SIR HILLARY'S MINIONS LEST THEY ATTEMPT FOUL PLAY!



MOMENTS LATER, AS ROBIN MOVED INTO POSITION...

FEAR NOT, SIR HILLARY! AT THE CRUCIAL MOMENT, ROBIN HOOD WILL BE BLINDED BY THE SUN!

GOOD! HANDLE THE REFLECTOR CAREFULLY! PEOPLE ARE GETTING TOO SUSPICIOUS AS IT IS!



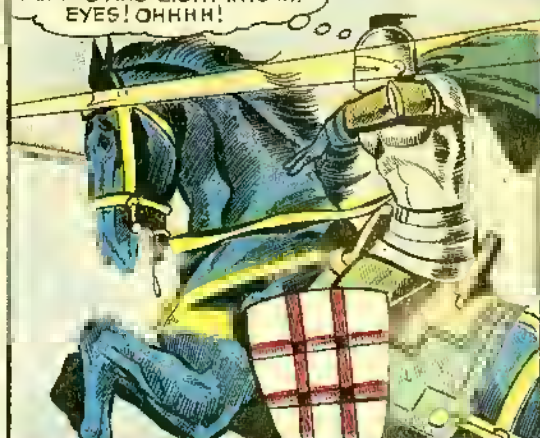
MINUTES LATER, AS THE TWO ANTAGONISTS THUNDER GRIMLY TOWARD ONE ANOTHER...

LITTLE DOES ROBIN HOOD REALIZE HE RIDES TO HIS DOOM!



A SPLIT SECOND LATER, AS A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT CAME OUT OF NOWHERE...

I-I CAN'T SEE! SOMEONE IS REFLECTING LIGHT INTO MY EYES! OHHHH!



S-SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG, ALAN A DALE! ROBIN RIDES AS IF HE CAN'T SEE A THING!

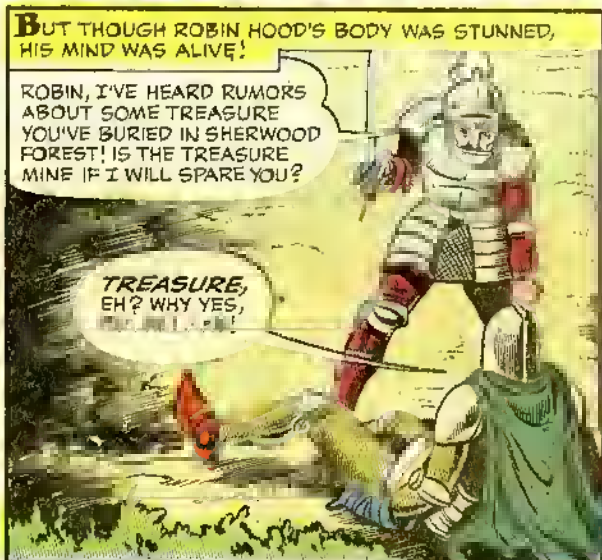
NOT ONLY *THAT*, WILL SCARLET! ROBIN'S GOING DOWN! H-HE'S FINISHED!



BUT THOUGH ROBIN HOOD'S BODY WAS STUNNED, HIS MIND WAS ALIVE!

ROBIN, I'VE HEARD RUMORS ABOUT SOME TREASURE YOU'VE BURIED IN SHERWOOD FOREST! IS THE TREASURE MINE IF I WILL SPARE YOU?

TREASURE, EH? WHY YES, I HAVE IT BURIED!



I'LL SPARE THY LIFE ON ONE OTHER CONDITION! THAT THY MERRY MEN BECOME MY HOSTAGES AT COXHAM CASTLE WHILST WE GO DIG UP THE TREASURE! WOE BETIDE THEE IF THOU LIEST!

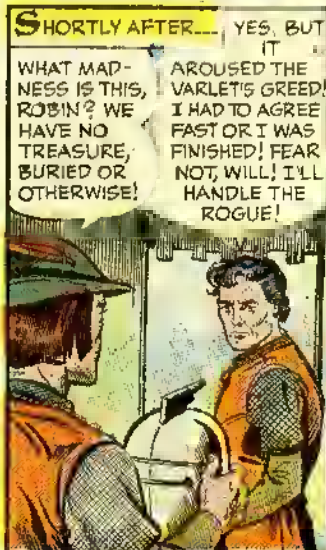
AGREED, SIR HILLARY! I'LL LEAD THEE TO THE TREASURE SPOT!



SHORTLY AFTER...

WHAT MADNESS IS THIS, ROBIN? WE HAVE NO TREASURE, BURIED OR OTHERWISE!

YES, BUT IT AROUSED THE VARLET'S GREED! I HAD TO AGREE FAST OR I WAS FINISHED! FEAR NOT, WILL! I'LL HANDLE THE ROGUE!



LATER THAT AFTERNOON IN SHERWOOD FOREST...

WE KEEP WALKING... BUT I SEE NO TREASURE! WHERE IS IT?

PATIENCE, SIR HILLARY! SEE THOSE TWO HUGE OAKS? HAVE THY MEN DIG A PIT BETWEEN THE TREES!





HOW DEEP IS THE PIT? HOW MUCH TREASURE IS BURIED HERE?

SIR HILLARY! YOU HAVE A SURPRISE AHEAD OF YOU! ANOTHER TEN MINUTES DIGGING AND THOU WILT BE THERE!



TEN MINUTES LATER... I STILL SEE NOTHING! WHAT IS THIS, YOU ROGUE? IS THIS ALL A HOAX?

AYE, VILLAIN! BUT THIS TRICK ISN'T!



WHAT THOU NEEDEST IS A CLOSER LOOK!

H-HE TRICKED US! THERE'S NOTHING HERE!

IIIEEEE!



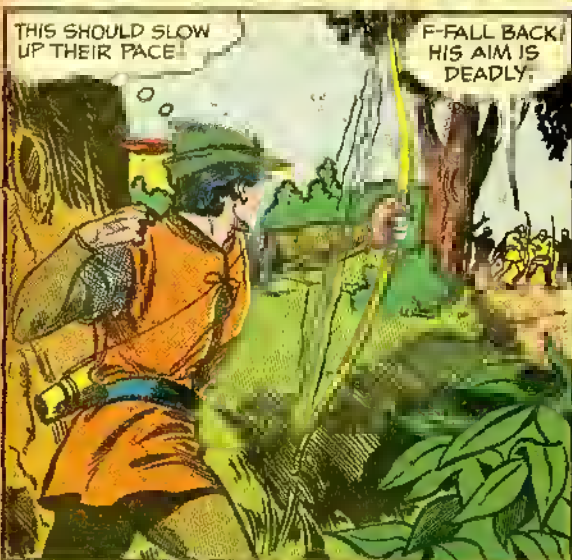
ROBIN HOOD WILL DIE FOR THIS TREACHERY! SO WILL HIS FRIENDS! MAURICE! MAKE POST-HASTE TO COXHAM CASTLE! EXECUTE THE HOSTAGES!

AYE, SIR!



SIR HILLARY! CALL OFF THY HOUNDS BEFORE I SEND THEM YELPING FOR COVER!

IT'S THEE WHO WILL HOWL FOR MERCY! AFTER HIM, FOOLS! DESTROY ROBIN HOOD!



THIS SHOULD SLOW UP THEIR PACE!

F-FALL BACK! HIS AIM IS DEADLY.

BUT UNDER SIR HILLARY'S FRENZIED URGING, THE PURSUIT WAS RESUMED! ROBIN HOOD WAS SOON FIGHTING A DESPERATE BATTLE AGAINST TREMENDOUS ODDS!



THY RECOGNITION COMES TOO LATE, VARLET!

EDMUND! 'TIS HE!

OH!!

ONE BY ONE AND TWO BY TWO, SIR HILLARY'S MEN CAME TO GRIEF...

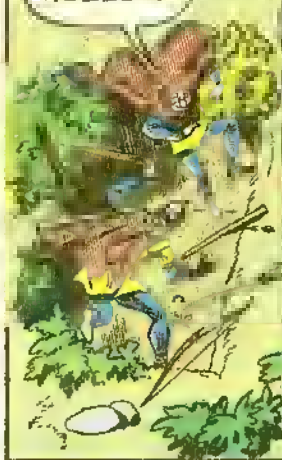
I THOUGHT I SAW SOMETHING MOVING HE...

AYE! IT MOVES RIGHT AT YOU!



USING EVERY CONCEIVABLE BATTLE TACTIC... TRAPS, TRICKERY AND BARE FISTS... ROBIN BATTERED HIS WAY TOWARD COXHAM CASTLE...

EEEEEE!



G-GULP!



I MUST REACH COXHAM CASTLE! SIR HILLARY'S MESSENGER MUST'VE ARRIVED THERE ALREADY!



A HALF HOUR LATER, AT COXHAM CASTLE...

WE MAY NOT LIVE TO SEE IT, VARLETS! BUT THOU WILT SURELY BE PUNISHED FOR THY CRIMES!

BOSH! EVEN NOW ROBIN LIES COLD ON THE FOREST FLOOR, BRISTLING WITH ARROWS!



IN ADDITION TO ALL YOUR OTHER SINS, THOU ART A LIAR!

IT'S ROBIN! HE LIVES! ATTACK THE SCOUNDRELS!



GOOD WORK, WILL SCARLET! WHEN SIR HILLARY RETURNS, WE'LL BE IN COMMAND OF THE CASTLE... AND OF HIM! BUT MY REAL REVENGE WILL COME TOMORROW!

AYE! AT THE LISTS IN NOTTINGHAM!



THE FOLLOWING DAY AT NOTTINGHAM!

SEE, GENTLEFOLK? HERE IS THY UN-BEATABLE SIR HILLARY FERRICK!... A CERTAIN LOSER IN A FAIR FIGHT!



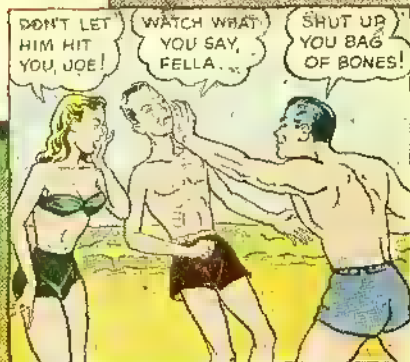
SIR HILLARY'S TREACHEROUS METHOD OF FIGHTING IS REVEALED FOR WHAT IT IS! NOW PUNISH THIS SCOUNDREL! HE DESERVES!

WE WILL, ROBIN! AND RETURN TO SHERWOOD FOR REST WITH OUR BLESSINGS! THOU HAST ERASED AN UGLY BLOTCH FROM THE SHIELD OF COXHAM CASTLE!

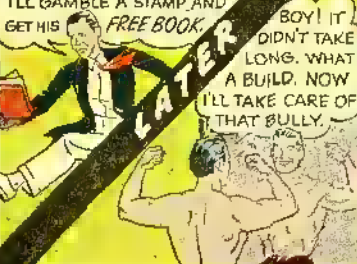


Hey SKINNY!

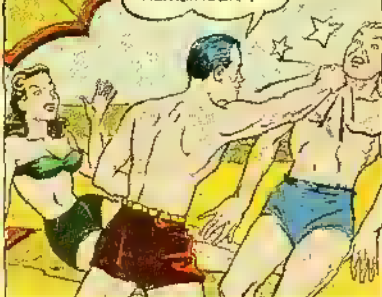
...YER RIBS ARE SHOWING!



DARN IT! I'M TIRED OF BEING A SKINNY SCARECROW. CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN MAKE ME A NEW MAN! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS **FREE BOOK.**



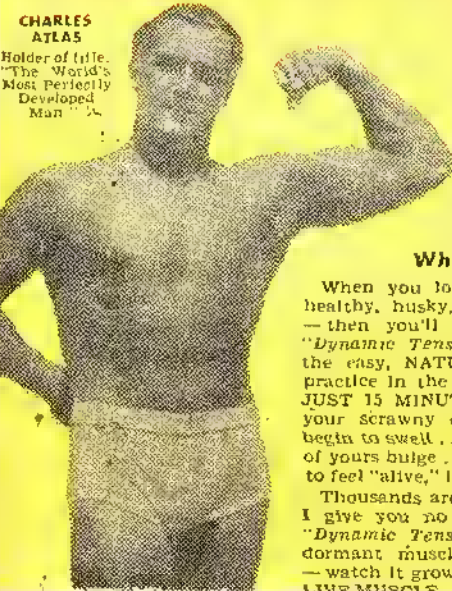
HERE'S A LOVE-TAP FROM THAT "BAG OF BONES" REMEMBER?



OH, JOE! YOU ARE A REAL HE-MAN, AFTER ALL.



I Can Make YOU a New Man, Too, In Only 15 Minutes a Day!



CHARLES ATLAS
Holder of title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man"

PEOPLE used to laugh at my skinny 97-pound body. I was ashamed to strip for sports or for a swim. Girls made fun of me behind my back. THEN I discovered my body-building system, "Dynamic Tension." It made me such a complete specimen of manhood that I hold the title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

What's My Secret?

When you look in the mirror and see a healthy, husky, yellow smiling back at you — then you'll be astonished at how fast "Dynamic Tension" GETS RESULTS! It is the easy, NATURAL method and you can practice in the privacy of your own room — JUST 15 MINUTES EACH DAY. Just watch your scrawny chest and shoulder muscles begin to swell . . . those spindly arms and legs of yours bulge . . . and your whole body starts to feel "alive," full of zip and go!

Thousands are becoming husky — my way. I give you no gadgets to fool with. With "Dynamic Tension" you simply utilize the dormant muscle-power in your own body — watch it grow and multiply into real, solid LIVE MUSCLE.

My 32-Page Illustrated Book is Yours — Not for \$1.00 or 10c — But FREE

Send for my book, *Everlasting Health and Strength*. 32 pages of photos, valuable advice. Shows what *Dynamic Tension* can do, answers vital questions: A real prize for any fellow who wants a better build. I'll send you a copy FREE. It may change your whole life. Rush coupon to me personally: Charles Atlas, Dept. 33012, 115 E. 23rd Street, New York 10, N. Y.



CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 33012
115 East 23 St., New York 10, N.Y.

Send me — absolutely FREE — a copy of your famous book, *Everlasting Health and Strength* — 32 pages, trimmed with photographs, answers to vital questions, and valuable advice. This book is mine to keep, and sending for it does not obligate me in any way.

Name..... Age.....
(Please print or write plainly)

Address.....

City..... State.....

☐ If under 14 years of age check here for Booklet A.

TROUBLESOME DOUBLOON

FOR the third bitter day Robin Hood lay beside the road through Sherwood Forest and watched the rich money lender ride by on his fine horse, with his retinue of servants and his fine raiment. For the third time he looked down at the money lender's shoes and saw how strangely thick and shapeless they were, with none of the rich gildings and buckles that marked the rest of his costume.

For the third time in as many days, Robin Hood sprang out with his bow drawn taut to his ear, a gray goose shaft nocked in the string. "Hold, money-lender," he barked sharply. "Stand and deliver thy wealth to an honest outlaw."

The money lender threw up fat hands in mock despair. Even as he looked frightened, his eyes mocked Robin Hood. "Don't tell me you stop me again, Outlaw. For three days you've held me up on the road, and for three days you've searched in vain when I tell you I carry no gold on my person."

"And three days you've lied," Robin Hood said grimly. "I do know that each day you go out you rob some poor serf of his few pennies to pay interest on unjust debts. I did swear that I would find and return that money to its lawful owners . . . for I may be an outlaw but I rob only to help the poor. Now have done with this cat-mouse game and hand over your fat purse."

"I have no purse," grinned the money lender, "and you may search me again to prove it."

One of the servants, thinking Robin Hood was paying no attention, snatched out his sword and sprang. In a twinkling the outlaw had darted back. His quarter staff flashed up and the sword went twanging and glittering off to land on the greensward. Robin Hood's staff made a solid sound against the helmet of the servant. "Don't try that again or I'll trade stout oak for my sharp steel and give you a taste of what you'd give me."

He turned back and rapidly searched the grinning money lender, from saddlebags to shawl. Once more he had to drop back and admit defeat, for not a penny of cash could he find.

"Go along with you," he growled at last. "But there is an old saying, the pitcher goes once too often to the well."

That night the Merry Men feasted and sang and sported themselves in contests, but Robin Hood had no interest in their games. All evening long he lay aside on the grass, chin in palm, thinking of the money lender and the money he was wringing from the poor each day.

At last, when the rest were asleep and the fires grown cold, Robin Hood took his long bow, his quiver of cloth-yard shafts and his oaken staff and set out for Nottingham town. At that lonely hour he found it easy to elude the guards and slip into the city.

Soon afterward one Wall, the Shoemaker, came stumbling from the tavern where he had spent many jolly hours and agreed many pieces of copper and silver. He was almost to his door when a grim figure

sprang from the shadows and the glint of steel showed close to his throat.

"P-Please," begged Wall of the apparition. "Spare me your steel. If it's money you seek, I have none . . . for I did spend a great sum this night in entertaining friends."

"So I noticed," Robin Hood said fiercely, emerging from the concealing shadows. "And I know your trade is not so great you can spend as lavishly each night. I want to know how you earn all the extra gold pieces you scatter about."

At sight of the outlaw, Wall fell on his knees. Sweat fell down his face and his hands trembled with terror. "Oh, please, my good master Robin Hood. Please spare me. I'll tell, if only you take the sword from my flesh."

"Now," said Robin Hood, "we're getting somewhere."

The next day he sprang out once more as the money lender came riding up. There was a brief clash of steel and flurry of battle as the servants tried vainly to overwhelm the gay outlaw. Then once more Robin Hood was master of the situation.

"Must this happen every day?" asked the money lender, pretending great disgust while his eyes danced with merriment. "Very well. Go ahead and search as you like. I can afford a small delay if it gives you pleasure."

"It gives me extreme pleasure," Robin Hood said pleasantly, making a low bow. "But I do fear me I have inconvenienced your lordship too long. Therefore, today I will not search your luggage but will content myself only with stealing your shoes as a small token of my victory."

"Shoes?" screamed the money lender, gone suddenly pale. "Oh, no. Take not my shoes. Please, good outlaw, they are but old and worn out ones I cling to for comfort. Take my fine raiment, my costly saddle. Strip my servants of their armor and steel . . . but take not my shoes."

"Your shoes," Robin said firmly, laughing. "I'll have them."

As the money lender wailed and pleaded, Robin Hood jerked off the ugly shoes and made a gay salute before vanishing into the green depths of Sherwood Forest.

By the outlaws' campfire, in the heart of the forest, he sat down and began carving on the shoes with his dagger. As he slit the old leather, gold and silver coins came pouring out into his lap. Each shoe was built with a fat inner pocket in which the sly money lender had hidden his ill-gotten loot. In them, too, he had hidden a list of the people he had robbed so that Robin Hood could quickly return the money to its rightful owners.

At this moment Friar Tuck strolled up. "Stap me, good Robin, since when did you turn cobbler?"

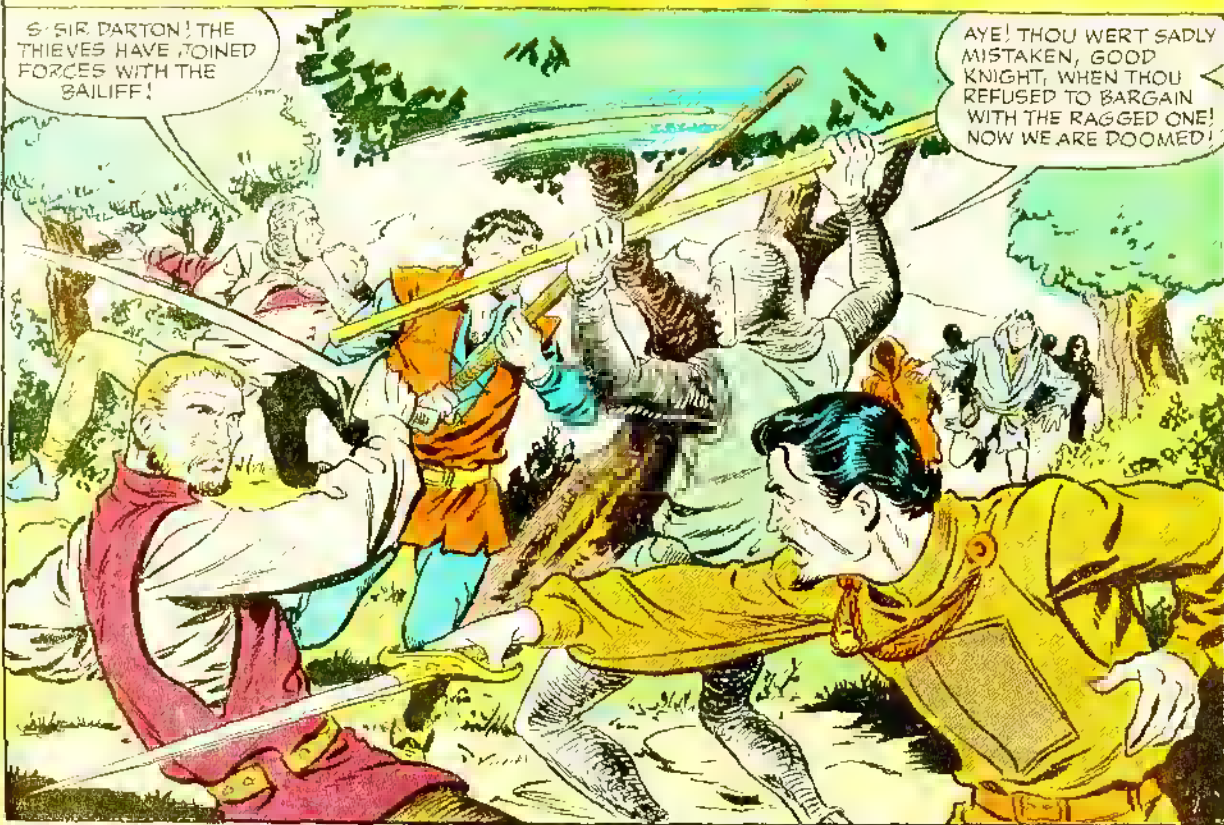
Robin Hood laughed exultantly. "Since last night, Friar Tuck, when I was taught by a frightened shoemaker that there can be very good money indeed in common shoes."

Sir Darton's DEAL WITH DOOM

SIR DARTON MALLORY WAS STARING DOOM IN THE FACE! DOOM CERTAIN AND TERRIBLE! NOR WAS THERE ANY WAY TO ESCAPE HIS FATE EXCEPT *ONE*! BUT SIR DARTON REFUSED TO TAKE THAT WAY! WAS HE A WISE MAN OR FOOL? THE NEXT FEW MINUTES WOULD TELL!

SIR DARTON! THE THIEVES HAVE JOINED FORCES WITH THE BAILIFF!

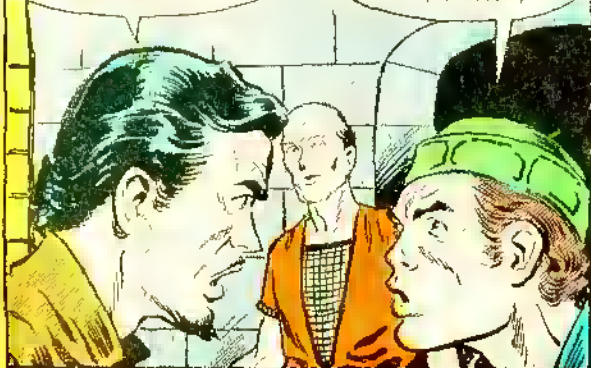
AYE! THOU WERT SADLY MISTAKEN, GOOD KNIGHT, WHEN THOU REFUSED TO BARGAIN WITH THE RAGGED ONE! NOW WE ARE DOOMED!



ONE AFTERNOON, AT SIR DARTON MALLORY'S CASTLE!

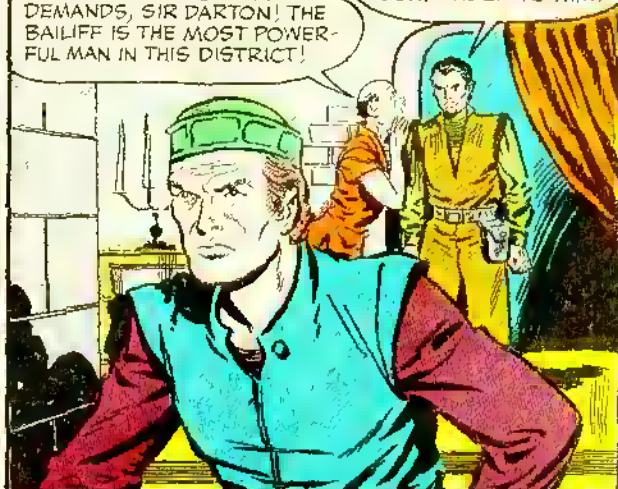
TELL THY CROOKED MASTER THAT HE HAS GOUGED HIS LAST PENNY FROM ME! LET HIM GO TO FOOLS AND COWARDS FOR TRIBUTE, NOT TO ME!

THOU WILT RUE THIS DECISION, SIR DARTON! WHAT MY MASTER CANNOT TAKE IN PEACE, HE WILL SEIZE BY FORCE!



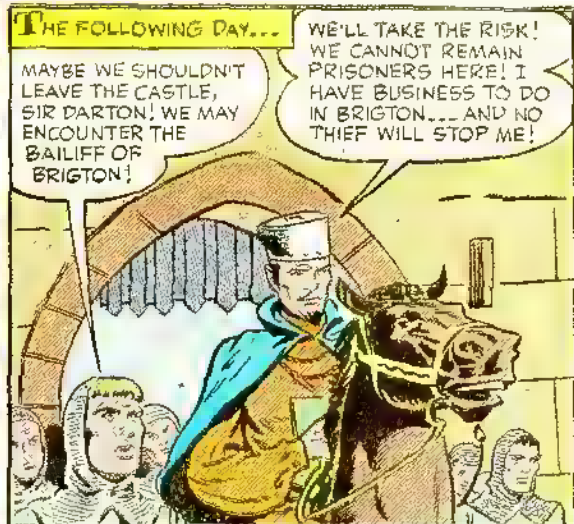
PERHAPS THOU WERT UNWISE TO REJECT THE BAILIFF'S DEMANDS, SIR DARTON! THE BAILIFF IS THE MOST POWERFUL MAN IN THIS DISTRICT!

STILL I WILL NOT SURRENDER TO HIM!





THE BAILIFF IS THE GREEDIEST MAN IN ENGLAND...AND THE MOST RUTHLESS! HE'S BEEN ROBBING THE PEOPLE FOR YEARS! **SOMEONE** MUST STAND UP TO HIM BEFORE HE REDUCES EVERYONE TO MISERY AND POVERTY!



THE FOLLOWING DAY...
MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T LEAVE THE CASTLE, SIR DARTON! WE MAY ENCOUNTER THE BAILIFF OF BRIGTON!

WE'LL TAKE THE RISK! WE CANNOT REMAIN PRISONERS HERE! I HAVE BUSINESS TO DO IN BRIGTON...AND NO THIEF WILL STOP ME!



AN HOUR LATER, NEAR BRIGTON...

S-SEE, SIRE? I WARNED YOU!

HALT, SIR DARTON... OR YOU WILL NOT LIVE TO TAKE ANOTHER STEP!



WHEN I LEVY A NEW TAX, IT MATTERS NOT WHETHER THOU LIKEST IT! IT MATTERS ONLY THAT THOU PAYEST! I DEMAND PAYMENT, SIR DARTON!

DEMAND ALL THOU LIKEST, BAILIFF! NOT A PENNY WILL I GIVE THEE, THOU FAT SCOUNDREL!



THEN I SHALL SET AN EXAMPLE WITH THEE! LEARN WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO DEFY ME! ATTACK THEM, KNAVES!

T-THEY ARE TOO MANY FOR US! FALL BACK TO THE WOODS! QUICKLY!



I-IT WILL AVAIL US NOTHING, SIR DARTON! THEY WILL TRACK US DOWN LIKE HOUNDS TRACK DOWN A RABBIT!

BUT THIS RABBIT HAS SHARP TEETH! WE'LL TURN THEIR HOUNDS BACK HOWLING!



BY MY SOUL! THEY RETREAT!

AYE! TAKE COURAGE! THE BULLY ALWAYS FEARS A BRAVE MAN!

HOLD! WE HAVE NO CAUSE TO CELEBRATE! THE BAILIFF'S MEN HAVE PAUSED ONLY TO DEPLOY THEIR FORCES AROUND US!

AYE! WE ARE SURROUNDED! THEY WILL RUSH AT US FROM ALL SIDES AND DESTROY US!

AN HOUR LATER...

WHAT ARE THEY WAITING FOR? WHY DON'T THEY ATTACK US AND GET IT OVER WITH?

BECAUSE IT IS THREE HOURS TILL DARK! WHEN EVENING FALLS, THEY WILL THROW THEMSELVES AT US FROM ALL DIRECTIONS!

SUDDENLY A STRANGE VOICE INTERRUPTED SIR DARTON...

IN THAT CASE, THOU COULDEST USE MY HELP! FOR THE RIGHT PRICE, THOU COULDEST REINFORCE THY NUMBER WITH MY SKILLED SKULL-CRACKERS!

I KNOW THY FACE! THOU ART THE BANDIT KNOWN AS THE RAGGED ONE! I WILL HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THEE!

EVEN WHEN DOOM STARES IN THY FACE? IF I WERE THEE, I WOULD SEIZE WHATEVER RESCUE LAY AT HAND! SURELY, THOU VALUEST THY FORTUNE!

AND I HOLD HONOR STILL HIGHER! THERE WILL BE NO DEALS! THOSE WHO FIGHT INJUSTICE DO SO OUT OF FOR BRIBES! GET THEE HENCE!

YOU AMAZE ME! YOU COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE WITH MY HELP! BUT YOU WILL NOT BUY MY HELP! IS HONOR WORTH THAT MUCH TO YOU?

AYE! TAKE THY BARGAINS TO THE BAILIFF OF BRIGTON! I AM SURE THE BAILIFF WILL BUY THY ASSISTANCE!

ALAS! NOW THE RAGGED ONE WILL HELP THE BAILIFF! WERE YOU WISE, SIR DARTON, TO REJECT HIS AID... EVEN IF HE IS A BANDIT?

NOTHING GOOD CAN COME FROM ALLIANCES WITH EVIL! WE SHALL HAVE TO DEFEAT THE BAILIFF WITHOUT THE RAGGED ONE'S HELP!

WE HAVE ONLY ONE CHANCE TO SAVE OURSELVES! IF WE REMAIN HERE, WE ARE DOOMED! WE'LL HAVE TO BREAK THROUGH THE BAILIFF'S TRAP! FOLLOW ME!

MAY LUCK BE WITH US, SIR DARTON! FOR VERILY, THOU HAST REJECTED AID!

AT THE SAME TIME, IN A CLEARING ADJOINING THE WOODS...

I WILL PURCHASE THY ASSISTANCE MOST GLADLY, RAGGED ONE! I WILL GIVE THEE A THIRD OF SIR DARTON'S POSSESSIONS, AFTER OUR JOINT FORCES HAVE LAID HIM

BAILIFF! C-COME QUICKLY! SIR DARTON IS BREAKING THROUGH OUR LINES!



THE RASCAL! HE DIDN'T WAIT TILL DARK! COME, RAGGED ONE! JOIN OUR FORCES! REMEMBER! A THIRD OF SIR DARTON'S POSSESSIONS FOR THY HELP!



S-SIR DARTON! THE THIEVES HAVE JOINED FORCES WITH THE BAILIFF!

ALAS! THOU WERT SADLY MISTAKEN, GOOD KNIGHT, WHEN THOU REFUSED TO BARGAIN WITH THE RAGGED ONE! NOW WE ARE DOOMED!



NO! WE MUST BE MORE COURAGEOUS THAN EVER! FORWARD!

W-WAIT, SIRE! HAS THE RAGGED ONE GONE MAD? HE ATTACKS THE BAILIFF'S MEN!



Z-ZOUNDS! WE ARE BETRAYED! THE THIEF ATTACKS US!

I-I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! BUT PRESS ON, MEN! THE BAILIFF'S KNAVES ARE CAUGHT BETWEEN TWO FIRES!



MOMENTS LATER, AS THE RAGGED ONE REACHED SIR DARTON'S SIDE...

I AM AMAZED! WHAT DECIDED THEE TO HELP ME? I OFFERED THEE NOTHING!

ON THE CONTRARY! THOU HAST GIVEN ME MUCH, SIR! AN EXAMPLE OF COURAGE SUCH AS I NEVER BEFORE ENCOUNTERED! THY COURAGE IS THY TRUE WEALTH AND I WOULD FAIRLY SHARE IT!



AN HOUR LATER, AS THE BAILIFF SURRENDERED, PROMISING THE END OF HIS TYRANNY...

I THANK THEE RAGGED ONE... AND I OFFER THEE THE COMMAND OF MY MEN-AT-ARMS, IF THOU ART WILLING TO LEAVE THY THIEVING DAYS BEHIND!

I ACCEPT THY OFFER, SIR DARTON! THY EXAMPLE HAS SHOWN ME THE RICHES OF GOODNESS AND HONOR! ALL EVIL, LIKE THE BAILIFF'S AND MINE, IS DOOMED BECAUSE OF THE COURAGE OF MEN LIKE THEE!



IDENTIFY EVEN THE STRANGEST STAMPS—at a glance!

Now, no stamp need puzzle you—no matter how strange it looks. Look at the Oriental script on the enlarged stamp

at left. How could you possibly tell what country it comes from. But with the stamp identifier at your side—

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PUP TOASTER

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RADIO



RADIO MODEL SET



GARRY HAYES FISHING KIT



GIRLS OVERNIGHT CASE



SPORTS EQUIPMENT

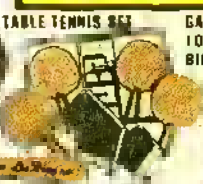
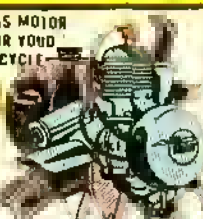


TABLE TENNIS SET



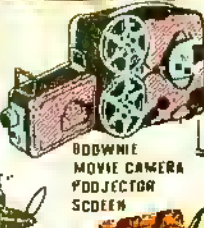
GAS MOTOR FOR YOUR BICYCLE



ROLLER SKATE



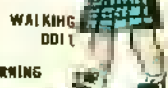
JET PLANE WITH GAS ENGINE



MOVIE CAMERA PROJECTOR SCREEN



WOODBURNING SET



WALKING DOLL

SCOUTING EQUIPMENT



1 TUBE RADIO SET

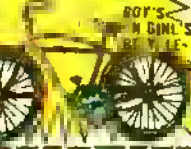
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TYPEWRITER



CHEMISTRY SET

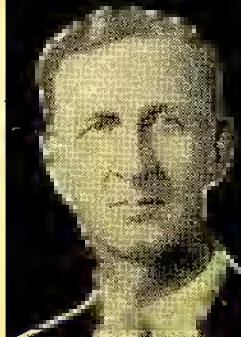
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
I WILL TRAIN YOU AT HOME FOR GOOD PAY JOBS IN RADID-TELEVISION


J. E. SMITH has trained more men for Radio-Television than any other man, OUR 40th YEAR.


**America's Fast Growing Industry Offers
You Good Pay—Bright Future—Security**


I TRAINED THESE MEN

 "Started to repair sets six months after enrolling. Earned \$12 to \$15 a week in spare time."—Adam Kranlik, Jr., Sunnyside, Pennsylvania.

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 "Am doing Radio and Television Servicing full time. Now have my own shop. I owe my success to N.R.I."—Curtis Stath, Ft. Madison, Iowa.

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**The Tested Way
To Better Pay!**

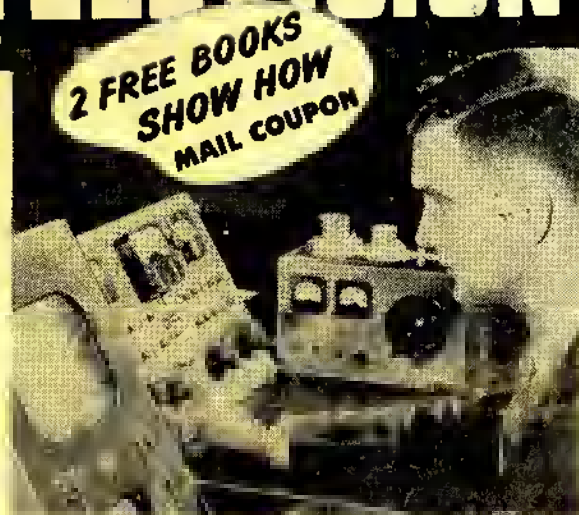
Training plus opportunity is the PERFECT COMBINATION for job security, good pay, advancement. In good times, the trained man makes the BETTER PAY. GETS PROMOTED. When jobs are scarce, the trained man enjoys GREATER SECURITY. NRI training can help assure you more of the better things of life.

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